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## Corrupt NYC landlord ordered to pay a record \$8M to tenants and sentenced to 1 year at Rikers



By [Mackenzie Goldberg](#)

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Croman tenants rally outside the Manhattan Supreme Court in June of 2016.

“ *In the summer of 2016, Attorney General Eric Schneiderman charged Croman with 20 felonies, including harassing tenants at rent-regulated apartments within his various properties as well as falsifying rental income in order to secure as much as \$45 million in financing. This fall, Croman plead guilty to charges of grand larceny, tax fraud, and an additional fraud charge relating to false statements.* — [Curbed NY](#)

The notorious [Manhattan](#) landlord Steve Croman, who owned nearly 150 buildings across the city, has agreed to pay \$8 million to his former tenants, the largest-ever settlement with an individual landlord in the state. Additionally, he has been sentenced to serve one year of jail time at Rikers Island.

In recent years, New York lawmakers have been pushing for stricter laws to crack down on abusive landlords. Back in August, Mayor Bill de Blasio signed an 18-law package that aims to protect tenants from harassment by landlords and make it easier for residents to take abusive building owners to court. They also increase punishments and enforce laws against dangerous and illegal construction.

Attorney General Eric Schneiderman has echoed these efforts, emphasizing that his office has zero tolerance for landlords who try to boost their profits while disregarding the wellbeing of their tenants. Croman, who would push out rent-regulated tenants by [turning off their electricity, removing washing](#)

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